

## **Unit 21. Chilchitna River and Tutna Lake Corridor**

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### **Background**

**Land Status.** Most of the land is owned by the state. One Native allotment is on Tutna Lake. The unit is located within the Lake and Peninsula Borough.

**Miles of River.** The main channel of Nikadavna Creek extends for 12 miles. The main river channel of the Chilchitna River extends for 2 river miles.

**Access.** The northern portion of Tutna Lake provides easy floatplane accessibility. The lake is near Iliamna, but much of the use is based directly out of Anchorage and the Kenai vicinity.

**Existing Development.** No cabins or other development are documented in the unit.

**Fisheries.** Tutna Lake and streams in the unit provide spawning and rearing habitat for king, coho, sockeye, and chum salmon.

Subsistence fishing use is low. Sport fishing use is low and usually associated with hunting and floating.

**Wildlife.** Moose density is moderate; caribou density is high.

Subsistence hunting use is low. Sport hunting use is high. This is a popular place for Anchorage air taxis and outfitters to bring nonresident clients for float hunts for moose and caribou from Tutna Lake to a pickup spot on the Mulchatna. Between 20 and 40 camps are located in the vicinity of Tutna Lake during the fall hunting season.

**Trails and Easements.** None.

**Other Values.** Scenic value is high because of high landscape diversity and good views of surrounding uplands from the lake. Floating use is low.

## **Management Intent**

Semi-primitive use experience.

## **Management Guidelines**

### **Long-term Use (longer than 14 consecutive days at one site)**

Permanent facilities	Prohibited.
Temporary facilities	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Trapping cabins	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Boat storage	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Airstrip development	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Docks: permanent	Prohibited
temporary	May be allowed (case-by-case).
Other uses	May be allowed (case-by-case).

### **Short-term Use (14 consecutive days or less at one site)**

See Short-term Uses (generally allowed uses) in Chapter 2.

## **Other Guidelines Specific to this Unit**

- U21.1 Long-term Uses Associated with Mineral/Oil and Gas Activity. For long-term uses associated with mineral and oil and gas exploration and development, see Chapter 2 guideline.
- U21.2 Siting Criteria. Long-term uses will be sited to minimize evidence of human use.

## **Public Use Sites**

See Public Use Sites in Chapter 2 for management guidelines. Specific locations of sites are shown on maps in Appendix C.

Site 36 Campsite and floatplane landing area on the north side of Tutna Lake.

## **Recommendations for this Unit**

None.